## SENATE BILL 862 By Harper

AN ACT to amend Tennessee Code Annotated, Title 68, Chapter 140, Part 5, relative to emergency services.

## BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE:

SECTION 1. Tennessee Code Annotated, Title 68, Chapter 140, Part 5, is amended by adding a new section thereto, as follows:

Section 68-140-526.

- (a) Beginning January 1, 2006, every licensed emergency medical technician and emergency medical technician-paramedic shall obtain, during each calendar year, at least ten (10) hours of continuing education that meets the guidelines established for such continuing education by the rules of the board.

  Each licensed practitioner shall maintain written proof of obtaining such continuing education for a period of at least three (3) years and shall, upon request, make such proof available to the board.
- (b) The board shall approve only those continuing education courses that conform to the guidelines established by the rules of the board. Providers of such courses shall also be approved by the board in accordance with guidelines established by the rules of the board.
- (c) The rules of the board may establish exceptions from the requirements of this section in emergency or hardship cases. Such cases shall be individually reviewed and approved by the board.
- (d) No continuing education hours from one (1) licensing period may be carried over to a subsequent licensing period.

(e) Any licensee who is sixty-five (65) years of age or older shall be exempt from the continuing education requirements in this chapter.

SECTION 2. The board is authorized to promulgate rules and regulations pursuant to title 4, chapter 5, to effectuate the provisions of this act.

SECTION 3. For the purposes of promulgating rules and regulations, this act shall take effect upon becoming a law, the public welfare requiring it. For all other purposes this act shall take effect July 1, 2005, the public welfare requiring it.

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